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OLE Automation 1.0

Name: Using OLE in Visual Basic applications.**Author:** Richard Quinn**E-Mail:** Richard.Quinn@IBM.NET**Date:** July 22, 1997

Description: So, you've heard of OLE, you know what it is, but how do you use it? The simplest and quickest way to use OLE is by making use of the OLE container control, provided as standard by Visual Basic. With no programming, you can draw one of these controls onto your visual basic form, set the SourceDoc property to point to the file of your choice and there you are! You have created an OLE client application. Your program can play host to OLE server applications (such as Microsoft Excel) allowing the user access to professional level computing power. But, seeing as this definitely hasn't quenched your thirsty lust for knowledge, the following guide will explain how to programatically control what appears in your OLE container. You will also see how the Common Dialog is integrated into the rest of your project.

Controls needed: Common Dialog, Command Button and OLE Container.**Note:** You will need Excel to complete this tutorial.**Level:** Beginner

You will need to start a new project containing a single form, a Common Dialog control, a command button (named objOLEContainer) Paste the following code into the declarations section of your form.

```
Private Sub Form_Load()
'disable error messages for this procedure
On Error Resume Next

'centre the form
'Me refers to this form
'Move is more efficient than setting left and top properties
'we use the \ operator to make integer divisions,
'accuracy is not important but speed is.

Me.Move (Screen.Width - Me.ScaleWidth) \ 2, _
(Screen.Height - Me.ScaleHeight) \ 2

'move the command button to the middle bottom of the form
cbOpenFile.Move (Me.ScaleWidth - cbOpenFile.Width) \ 2, _
(Me.ScaleHeight - cbOpenFile.Height)

'move the OLE container to cover the rest of the form
objOLEContainer.Move Me.ScaleLeft, _
Me.ScaleTop, _
Me.ScaleWidth, _
Me.ScaleHeight - cbOpenFile.Height

'we want the contents of the container to be automatically
'and proportionally resized
objOLEContainer.SizeMode = vbOLESizeZoom
```

```

End Sub

Private Sub cbOpenFile_Click()
On Error Resume Next

    'tell the common dialog that we want to know if the user
    'cancel
    cdgDialog.CancelError = True

    'we want the common dialog to filter in only Excel files
    'filters are very useful when using the common dialog
    cdgDialog.Filter = "Excel WorkBooks (*.xls)|*.xls|Comm

    'tell the common dialog to show itself in the FileOpen
    cdgDialog.ShowOpen

    'Code stops executing and waits for a result from
    'the common dialog box

    'Did you press cancel?
    If Err = cdlCancel Then
        'Inform the user that this was a bad idea
        MsgBox "Oops! You pressed cancel!", vbOKOnly, "
        'and leave the sub
        Exit Sub
    End If

    'Did the user choose a respectable file name?
    If cdgDialog.FileName = vbNullString Then
        'Inform the user that this was a bad idea
        MsgBox "Oops! You didn't choose a file!", vbOK
        'and leave the sub
        Exit Sub
    End If

    'everything appears OK, so we can tell the OLE container
    'to create an *embedded* link using the file chosen by

    objOLEContainer.CreateLink cdgDialog.FileName

End Sub

Private Sub objOLEContainer_Click()
On Error Resume Next

    'Tell the OLE container object to empty *linked* files
    objOLEContainer.Delete

    'see what errors happened during this process
    Select Case Err

    Case Is = 0 'no errors - Yippee!

    Case Else 'other errors
        'tell the user what error happened
        'Error(Err) returns the error message for the error number
        MsgBox "Error number " & Err & " occurred. This means"
            Error(Err)

    End Select

```

End Sub

Run the project and see how, very simply, you have given the user access to show whichever Excel file he (she) Clicking on the OLE control will remove its contents.

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Convention Planning

The Gant Chart Way

A Gant chart is simply a to-do list on a time line showing start and due dates for each item. A Gant chart's activities begin several months before the event, with items checked off as the checklist and timeline draw closer to the activity. Once a Gant chart is made for a particular event, it is a great tool to use for annual activities. The goal is to have each box checked off no later than the date that you assign the task. Here is a Gant chart to help you plan for Fall Convention:

12 Months

- ☐ Confirm days and dates of event.
- ☐ Advertise in church's annual calendar.
- ☐ Budget for expenses that may not be covered in registration costs (leaders expenses, travel, etc.).

5 Months

- ☐ Decide in a 1 or 2 night hotel stay.
- ☐ Secure reservations at hotel: note price/floor/rooms/check-out times.
- ☐ Secure church bus and van availability in regard to other church ministries.

3 Months

- ☐ Determine cost per student and what the cost includes: registration, travel, hotel, meals.
- ☐ Determine if leaders' costs are included in the students' cost, or budgeted item or self-paid.
- ☐ Determine a goal of how many you would like to take— set a record high and cast the vision.
- ☐ Put up announcement posters in youth room, Sunday School rooms, announcement area.
- ☐ Add dates to all announcement sheets distributed to youth.
- ☐ Send parents a postcard to help them plan for their student to attend.
- ☐ Start announcing in weekly youth meetings.
- ☐ Start a sign-up list and assign leaders to emphasize going to the event in their small groups.
- ☐ Assign a leader to take deposits and monies for the trip.
- ☐ Recruit adult leaders to attend: volunteer youth workers, parents, grandparents, etc.
- ☐ Recruit extra drivers for the trip (avoid the main leader having to drive.)
- ☐ Secure necessary CDL drivers' licenses for drivers.
- ☐ Secure dates, prices with transportation company if vehicles must be rented.

1 Month

- ☐ Show promotional video each week and advertise intensely – Sunday announcements, too.
- ☐ Call students and invite them to attend.
- ☐ Have leaders ship the promotional video to first-time students' parents in their home.
- ☐ Plan for a Speed the Light offering to bring – for your church plus per student.
- ☐ Create and distribute registration, information forms, permission slips with times, details, etc.
- ☐ Assign leaders to collect information. Turn in check requisitions to your church office.
- ☐ Send in pre-registrations to Illinois Youth and College Ministries.
- ☐ Confirm vehicles, drivers, chaperons.

2 Weeks

- ☐ Turn in other check requisitions for petty cash, emergency funds, hotel, extra registrations.
- ☐ Have a leader do a vehicle inspection of all vehicles, trailers, tires, etc.
- ☐ Plan a special prayer meeting for church, fast a day or meals.
- ☐ Plan a trip meeting for parents and students: information guidelines, questions and answers.

1 Week

- ☐ Create a small schedule with room assignments and vital information to be given on the trip.
- ☐ Call hotel for final room needs and check in/out times.
- ☐ Get checks from church office.
- ☐ Fill up vehicles with gas and secure keys.
- ☐ Type room list for hotel and for emergency contact file with phone numbers, etc., to call.

Day of Trip

- ☐ Meet with everyone for orientation, handouts and prayer.
- ☐ Head count before trip and after each stop.
- ☐ Assign responsibilities to particular students in each room: keys, schedule, luggage, etc.
- ☐ Give schedule to drivers with planned meal stops and highlighted pick-up times.
- ☐ Get room numbers at hotel front desk to write next to students' names on your housing list.
- ☐ Hand out keys to assigned students.
- ☐ Use the round trip for spiritual challenge, testimonies, encouragement and prayer.

After Trip

- ☐ Send thank you notes to students, leaders & parents.
- ☐ Share testimonies with the church.
- ☐ Start Gant Chart for next year's convention.



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| Name | Start | End | Complete | jun97 | aug97 | okt97 | des97 | jan98 | Duration apr98 | jun98 | aug98 | okt98 | des98 | feb99 |
|--|--------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Akt1 | 01/06/97 | 01/05/98 | <input type="text" value="10"/> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Akt2 | 01/02/98 | 01/10/98 | <input type="text" value="20"/> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Akt3 | 10/09/98 | 01/02/99 | <input type="text" value="40"/> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Akt4 | 01/03/98 | 01/01/99 | 100 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Milestone1 | 01/05/98 | | |  | | | | | | | | | | |
| Milestone2 | 01/10/98 | | |  | | | | | | | | | | |
| Your ID: | <input type="text"/> | | <input type="button" value="Send"/> | <div>26/12/97</div> | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <input type="button" value="Reset"/> | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| General comments about the plan and progress: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <input type="text"/> <div>   </div> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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